

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Township Code is amended by changing Section
5 235-20 as follows:

6 (60 ILCS 1/235-20)

7 Sec. 235-20. General assistance tax.

8 (a) The township board may raise money by taxation deemed
9 necessary to be expended to provide general assistance in the
10 township to persons needing that assistance as provided in the
11 Illinois Public Aid Code, including persons eligible for
12 assistance under the Military Veterans Assistance Act, where
13 that duty is provided by law. The tax for each fiscal year
14 shall not be more than 0.10% of value, or more than an amount
15 approved at a referendum held under this Section, as equalized
16 or assessed by the Department of Revenue, and shall in no case
17 exceed the amount needed in the township for general
18 assistance. The board may decrease the maximum tax rate by
19 ordinance.

20 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the
21 board desires to increase the maximum tax rate, it shall order
22 a referendum on that proposition to be held at an election in
23 accordance with the general election law. The board shall

1 certify the proposition to the proper election officials, who
2 shall submit the proposition to the voters at an election in
3 accordance with the general election law. If a majority of the
4 votes cast on the proposition is in favor of the proposition,
5 the board may annually levy the tax at a rate not exceeding the
6 higher rate approved by the voters at the election. If,
7 however, the board has decreased the maximum tax rate under
8 subsection (a), then it may, at any time after the decrease,
9 increase the maximum tax rate, by ordinance, to a rate less
10 than or equal to the maximum tax rate immediately prior to the
11 board's ordinance to decrease the rate.

12 (c) If a city, village, or incorporated town having a
13 population of more than 500,000 is located within or partially
14 within a township, then the entire amount of the tax levied by
15 the township for the purpose of providing general assistance
16 under this Section on property lying within that city, village,
17 or incorporated town, less the amount allowed for collecting
18 the tax, shall be paid over by the treasurer of the township to
19 the treasurer of the city, village, or incorporated town to be
20 appropriated and used by the city, village, or incorporated
21 town for the relief and support of persons needing general
22 assistance residing in that portion of the city, village, or
23 incorporated town located within the township in accordance
24 with the Illinois Public Aid Code.

25 (d) Any taxes levied for general assistance before or after
26 this Section takes effect may also be used for the payment of

1 warrants issued against and in anticipation of those taxes and
2 accrued interest on those warrants and may also be used to pay
3 the cost of administering that assistance.

4 (e) In any township with a population of less than 500,000
5 that receives no State funding for the general assistance
6 program and that has not issued anticipation warrants or
7 otherwise borrowed monies for the administration of the general
8 assistance program during the township's previous 3 fiscal
9 years of operation, a one time transfer of monies from the
10 township's general assistance fund may be made to the general
11 township fund pursuant to action by the township board. This
12 transfer may occur only to the extent that the amount of monies
13 remaining in the general assistance fund after the transfer is
14 equal to the greater of (i) the amount of the township's
15 expenditures in the previous fiscal year for general assistance
16 or (ii) an amount equal to either 0.10% of the last known total
17 equalized value of all taxable property in the township, or
18 100% of the highest amount levied for general assistance
19 purposes in any of the three previous fiscal years. The
20 transfer shall be completed no later than one year after the
21 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd General
22 Assembly. No township that has certified a new levy or an
23 increase in the levy under this Section during calendar year
24 2002 may transfer monies under this subsection. No action on
25 the transfer of monies under this subsection shall be taken by
26 the township board except at a township board meeting. No

1 monies transferred under this subsection shall be considered in
2 determining whether the township qualifies for State funds to
3 supplement local funds for public aid purposes under Section
4 12-21.13 of the Illinois Public Aid Code.

5 (e-5) The township board of Gray Township in White County
6 may approve by resolution or ordinance transfers of monies from
7 the township's general assistance fund to the general township
8 fund no later than one year after the effective date of this
9 amendatory Act of the 99th General Assembly if:

10 (1) the township receives no State funding for the
11 general assistance program;

12 (2) the township has not issued anticipation warrants
13 or otherwise borrowed monies for the administration of the
14 general assistance program during the township's previous
15 3 fiscal years of operation;

16 (3) the amount of monies remaining in the general
17 assistance fund after the transfer is equal to the greater
18 of (i) the amount of the township's expenditures in the
19 previous fiscal year for general assistance or (ii) an
20 amount equal to either 0.10% of the last known total
21 equalized value of all taxable property in the township, or
22 100% of the highest amount levied for general assistance
23 purposes in any of the three previous fiscal years; and

24 (4) the township that has not certified a new levy or
25 an increase in the levy under this Section during calendar
26 year 2015.

1 No monies transferred under this subsection shall be considered
2 in determining whether the township qualifies for State funds
3 to supplement local funds for public aid purposes under Section
4 12-21.13 of the Illinois Public Aid Code.

5 (Source: P.A. 95-331, eff. 8-21-07.)

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
7 1, 2016.